AA-173
Brandy, site
St. Stephen's Church Road, Millersville
Odenton quadrangle

Brandy was an early typical English cottage of the Medieval Transition style, reputedly built about 1686, but more likely c. 1710-20. A 1 1/2-story frame structure apparently built in two parts, six bays long by two wide, the house had one external chimney at one end, and an internal chimney between the two sections. One façade had four apparently 6/4 sash windows and two doors below a modillioned cornice, and three dormers in the roof with 2/2 sash windows. The other façade had an irregular roofline, also with three dormers, with the central two bays covered by a projecting shed roofed addition, and the two bays at either end covered by shed-roofed porches, one partially enclosed, and one bearing traces of a sawnwork bargeboard. The gable end with the chimney had a 6/4 sash window to the left of the chimney, and a small square window in the half story above. The other gable end had a 2/2 sash window centered in the gable and a 6/4 sash window below. One door had six horizontal panels, and another was a typical four-panel door. A 1964 newspaper article mentions floorboards in excess of twelve inches wide. The house was recorded by Michael O. Bourne in 1970, who collected samples of c. 1820 wallpaper which had been applied using newspaper (one bearing the date 1794 in an article). Mr. Bourne noted:

Although fast becoming a ruin, Brandy has many significant architectural features still untouched by vandals or the elements. The casement window frame, one of the very few extant examples of that early window treatment remaining in Maryland, is a good

example. Under the present roof are the remains of an earlier one of riven clapboard—the earliest form of roofing known to have been used in Maryland. Evidence also points to riven clapboard gray exterior walls, setting off the once-red window frames. The interior of the original house contained two rooms on the first floor. In those rooms the ceiling joists were exposed and beaded. A steep stair next to the fireplace leads to the vertically beaded paneled rooms on the second floor. The roof was braced in a Medieval manner. Brandy is an important edifice in the state's architectural history. Michael O. Bourne, August 10, 1970.

In November of that year, Cary Carson, Architectural Historian and Coordinator of Research at Historic St. Mary's City, visited the house with J. Richard Rivoire, and noted in a letter to Orlando Ridout IV, Director of the Maryland Historical Trust, that:

It is a rare surviving example of a type of frame farmhouse which we know was common in its day, but by now has almost completely disappeared. I noted several unusual features that warrant careful study and, if possible, preservation. For example, underneath the present shed roof, there is a much earlier roof which is covered, not with shingles, but with feathered clapboards. . . . Also noteworthy are its original plank partitions and paneling, beaded posts and joists, a fine patch of colorful early wall paper, and a very unusual transom window which may once have held a leaded casement.

Michael Bourne's notes of December 4, 1970 also note that Cary Carson stated that the transom was early 18th century, as was the ogee moulding around the door itself. He also said that the beaded posts and beams were 1710-20, and that sometime in the mid 18th century the casement transom was covered and a new jamb of mustard color was added. Then in the early 19th century all framing was concealed by lath and plaster, and the upstairs wallpaper was redone (presumably where his samples were taken from). The west room was redone about 1830-40. He also noted that the chimneys were not original, as they had

previously been interior chimneys. A Warfield family graveyard, mentioned in a 1964 newspaper article as being under a perpetual care endowment fund set up by the Warfield family, lies to the east of the house. The brick-walled cemetery (AA-901) was photographed during the c. 1970 research. Barns, outbuildings, and a well were also mentioned in the article, but not by the researchers a few years later.

The house burned in the early 1970s, and a neighbor reports that the remains of the house were pushed into a cellar hole with a gradall. Anne Arundel County's Lost Towns Project conducted an investigation of the site in August of 2000, finding 18th and 19th century artifacts.

The land upon which Brandy once stood was originally patented in 1683 by Richard Warfield, the first of the family in Anne Arundel County. In 1696 he became the first vestryman of St. Anne's Church in Annapolis. Brandy passed to Warfield's third son, Alexander, in 1703. When Alexander Warfield died in 1740, he devised this home seat referred to as "the dwelling plantation," to his youngest son, Richard, at the death of his mother. This Richard had two sons, Lancelot and Richard, Jr., to whom he left his estate. Lancelot bought out his brother's share, whereupon Richard Jr. moved to Frederick County. Lancelot left Brandy to his son, Lancelot, Jr., who left it to Lancelot Warfield III. This Lancelot sold the old homestead to a Mr. Gott. When Lancelot IV purchased Brandy back in 1882, it remained in the Warfield family until the mid-20th century.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

NOMINATION FORM

for the
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

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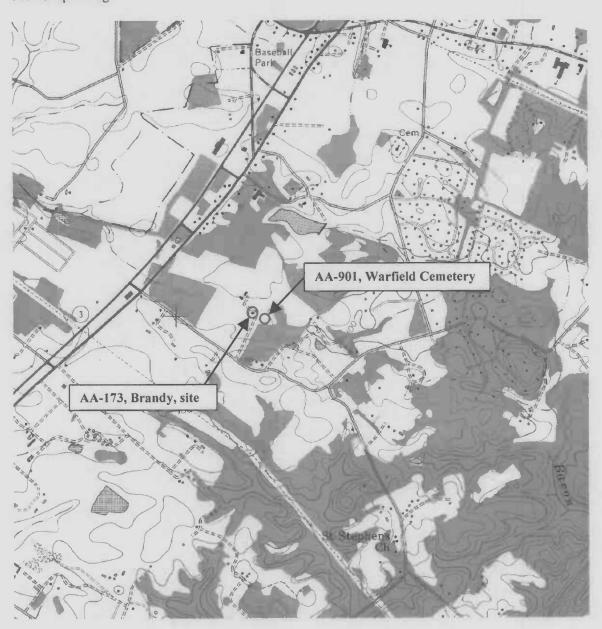
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AA-173 Brandy, site St. Stephen's Church Road, Millersville Odenton quadrangle





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